IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 6, 14, 22, 30, 34, 43, 52, 61 and 69 to 88 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please add new claims 109 to 111 as shown below, and please amend Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 13, 15 to 21, 23 to 29, 31 to 33, 35 to 42, 44 to 51, 53 to 60, 62 to 68 and 89 to 108 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising:

acquiring means for acquiring ~~the~~ device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling means for displaying, on a display section, a system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network together with an icon by a user interface on ~~the~~ a basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said acquiring means;

instructing means for instructing ~~the~~ install<u>ation</u> of a driver for said peripheral device shared on said network in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling means; and

install<u>ation</u> controlling means for acquiring driver setting information instructed to be installed by said instructing means from said external device to execute ~~the~~ automatic install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver.

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2. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said instructing means can instruct the installation of drivers for a plurality of peripheral devices shared on said network by one operation instruction in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling means.

3. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said instructing means instructs the installation of said drivers for said plurality of peripheral devices under the control of a server icon, when an installation instruction is issued selecting said server icon in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling means.

4. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said instructing means instructs the installation of a driver for a selected peripheral device, when an installation instruction is issued selecting a peripheral device icon and displaying said system condition by said system display controlling means.

5. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising installation shifting means for shifting to an installation function provided by an OS, operating system, when said driver instructed to be installed by said instructing means cannot be acquired from said external device.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising registering means for extracting ~~the~~ setting information of said driver which is to be installed by said installation controlling means and for registering the ~~thus~~ extracted setting information in an external device which is a management server through said network.

8. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising driver information display controlling means for acquiring said registered setting information of said driver from said management server and for displaying the ~~thus~~ acquired <u>registered</u> setting information on said display section, in executing said installation processing of said driver by said installation controlling means.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising:

acquiring step for acquiring device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, a system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, together with an icon, by a user interface on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said acquiring step;

instructing step for instructing the installation of a driver for said peripheral

device shared on said network in said user interface having said system condition displayed

by said system display controlling step; and

installation controlling step for acquiring driver setting information

instructed to be installed by said instructing step from said external device to execute the

automatic installation processing of said driver.

10. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 9, wherein said instructing step can instruct the installation of drivers for a plurality

of peripheral devices shared on said network by one operation instruction in said user

interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

11. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 10, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of said drivers for said

plurality of peripheral devices under the control of a server icon; when an installation

instruction is issued selecting said server icon in said user interface having said system

condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

12. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 11, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of a driver for a selected

peripheral device; when an installation instruction is issued selecting a peripheral device

icon and displaying said system condition by said system display controlling step.

13. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 9, further comprising an installation shifting step for shifting to an installation function provided by an OS, operating system when said driver instructed to be installed by said instructing step cannot be acquired from said external device.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 9, further comprising a registering step for extracting the setting information of said driver which is to be installed by said installation controlling step and for registering the thus extracted setting information in an external device, which is a management server, through said network.

16. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 15, further comprising a driver information display controlling step for acquiring said registered setting information of said driver from said management server and for displaying the thus acquired setting information on said display section, in executing said installation processing of said driver by said installation controlling step.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program for communicating with an external device through a network, said program comprising:

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acquiring step for acquiring the device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, a system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, together with an icon, by a user interface on the a basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said acquiring step;

instructing step for instructing the installation of a driver for said peripheral device shared on said network in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step; and

installation controlling step for acquiring driver setting information instructed to be installed by said instructing step from said external device to execute the automatic installation processing of said driver.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 17, wherein said instructing step can instruct the installation of drivers for a plurality of peripheral devices shared on said network by one operation instruction in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 18, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of said drivers for said plurality of peripheral devices under the control of a server icon, when an

installation instruction is issued selecting said server icon in said user interface having said

system condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 19, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of a driver for

a selected peripheral device, when an installation instruction is issued selecting a peripheral

device icon and displaying said system condition by said system display controlling step.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 17, further comprising installation shifting step for shifting to an

installation function provided by an OS, operating system when said driver instructed to be

installed by said instructing step cannot be acquired from said external device.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 17, further comprising a registering step for extracting the setting

information of said driver which is to be installed by said installation controlling step and

for registering the thus extracted setting information in an external device, which is a

management server, through said network.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 23, further comprising a driver information display controlling step for acquiring said registered setting information of said driver from said management server and for displaying the ~~thus~~ acquired setting information on said display section, in executing said install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver by said install<u>ation</u> controlling step.

25. (Currently Amended) A program <u>which, when implemented by a computer, causes the computer to perform a method</u> for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising:

acquiring step for acquiring ~~the~~ device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, a system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network<u>,</u> together with

an icon<u>,</u> by a user interface on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said acquiring step;

instructing step for instructing ~~the~~ install<u>ation</u> of a driver for said peripheral device shared on said network in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step; and

install<u>ation</u> controlling step for acquiring driver setting information instructed to be installed by said instructing step from said external device to execute ~~the~~ automatic install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver.

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26. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 25, wherein said instructing step can instruct the installation of drivers for a plurality of peripheral devices shared on said network by one operation instruction in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

27. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 26, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of said drivers for said plurality of peripheral devices under the control of a server icon, when an installation instruction is issued selecting said server icon in said user interface having said system condition displayed by said system display controlling step.

28. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 27, wherein said instructing step instructs the installation of a driver for a selected peripheral device, when an installation instruction is issued selecting a peripheral device icon and displaying said system condition by said system display controlling step.

29. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 25, further comprising an installation shifting step for shifting to an installation function provided by an OS, operating system when said driver instructed to be installed by said instructing step cannot be acquired from said external device.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 25, further comprising a registering step for extracting the setting information of said driver which is to be installed by said installation controlling step and for registering the thus extracted setting information in an external device which is a management server through said network.

32. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 31, further comprising a driver information display controlling step for acquiring said registered setting information of said driver from said management server and for displaying the thus acquired setting information on said display section, in executing said install processing of said driver by said install controlling step.

33. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising:

device information acquiring means for acquiring the device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling means for displaying, on a display section, an overall system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, and a system condition of a user network of a peripheral device arbitrarily selected from said overall system condition, together with icons, by a user interface in such a manner that these the overall system conditions and the system condition of the user network can be identified,

on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said device information acquiring means;

  instructing means for instructing to register said peripheral device in said user network; and

  instal<u>ation</u> controlling means for executing ~~the~~ instal<u>ation</u> processing of a driver for said peripheral device, when registering of said peripheral device to said user network is newly instructed by said instructing means,

  <u>wherein said system display controlling means dividedly displays a system window for displaying said overall system condition, and a peripheral window for displaying said system condition of a desired peripheral device designated by a user</u>.

  34. (Canceled)

  35. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said favorite window has ~~the~~ icons of peripheral devices arranged around an icon of ~~its own~~ <u>said</u> information processing apparatus.

  36. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said instructing means instructs ~~the~~ <u>to</u> register ~~of~~ said peripheral device <u>in said user network</u> by effecting ~~the~~ movement of ~~said~~ <u>an</u> icon <u>of said peripheral device</u> between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed by said system displaying means.

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37. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 36, further comprising judging means for judging whether ~~said~~ driver setting information for a driver of said icon has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered in ~~its own~~ <u>said</u> information processing apparatus during the movement of said <u>peripheral device</u> icon by said instructing means, wherein

said install<u>ation</u> controlling means acquires said driver setting information ~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be installed from said external device to execute the install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver~~,~~ when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging means <u>determines</u> that said driver setting information has not been registered.

38. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said install<u>ation</u> controlling means uses said registered driver setting information to execute said install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver~~,~~ when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging means <u>determines</u> that said driver setting information has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered.

39. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said system displaying means identifies ~~the~~ <u>a</u> display mode of an icon ~~regarding~~ <u>of</u> an installed device between said system window and said favorite window which are separately displayed after completion of install<u>ation</u> by said install<u>ation</u> controlling means, and displays the ~~thus~~ identified display mode.

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40. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 34, further comprising writing means for writing positional information of an icon displayed in said favorite window into a storing means, wherein

said ~~first~~ system displaying means arranging and displaying said icon on ~~the~~ a basis of said positional information stored in said storing means.

41. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 36, wherein said instructing means can instruct, by drag and drop, the movement of said icon between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed.

42. (Currently Amended) An information processing method of an information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising the steps of:

device information acquiring step for acquiring ~~the~~ device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, an overall system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, and a system condition of a user network of a peripheral device arbitrarily selected from said overall system condition, together with icons, by a user interface in such a manner that ~~these~~ the overall system conditions and the system condition of the user network can be identified, on ~~the~~ a basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said device information acquiring step;

instructing step for instructing to register said peripheral device in said user

network; and

installation controlling step for executing ~~the~~ installation processing of a

driver for said peripheral device, when ~~register~~ registration of said peripheral device to said

user network is newly instructed by said instructing step,

wherein said system controlling step dividedly displays a system window

for displaying said overall system condition and a peripheral window for displaying said

system condition of a desired peripheral device designated by a user.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 43, wherein said favorite window has ~~the~~ icons of peripheral devices arranged

around an icon of ~~its own~~ said information processing apparatus.

45. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 43, wherein said instructing step instructs ~~the register~~ registration of said peripheral

device by effecting ~~the~~ movement of ~~said~~ an icon between said system window and said

favorite window which are dividedly displayed by said system displaying step.

46. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to

claim 45, further comprising a judging step for judging whether ~~said~~ driver setting

information for a driver of said icon has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered in ~~its own~~ <u>said</u> information processing apparatus during the movement of said icon by said instructing step, wherein

said install<u>ation</u> controlling step acquires said driver setting information ~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be installed from said external device to execute the install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver, when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver setting information has not been registered.

47. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 46, wherein said install<u>ation</u> controlling step uses said registered driver setting information to execute said install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver, when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver setting information has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered.

48. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 43, wherein said system displaying step identifies ~~the~~ <u>a</u> display mode of an icon ~~regarding~~ <u>of</u> an installed device between said system window and said favorite window which are separately displayed after completion of install<u>ation</u> by said install<u>ation</u> controlling step, and displays the ~~thus~~ identified display mode.

49. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 43, further comprising a writing step for writing positional information of an icon displayed in said favorite window into a storing means step, wherein

said first system displaying step comprises arranging and displaying said icon on the a basis of said positional information stored in said storing step.

50. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 45, wherein said instructing step can instruct, by drag and drop, the movement of said icon between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed.

51. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program of an information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device through a network, said program comprising:

device information acquiring step for acquiring the device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, an overall system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, and a system condition of a user network of a peripheral device arbitrarily selected from said overall system condition, together with icons, by a user interface in such a manner that these the overall system conditions and the system condition of the user network can be identified, on the a basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said device information acquiring step;

instructing step for instructing to register said peripheral device in said user network; and

installation controlling step for executing the installation processing of a driver for said peripheral device, when register registration of said peripheral device to said user network is newly instructed by said instructing step,

wherein said system controlling step dividedly displays a system window for displaying said overall system condition and a peripheral window for displaying said system condition of a desired peripheral device designated by a user.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 52, wherein said favorite window has the icons of peripheral devices arranged around an icon of its own said information processing apparatus.

54. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 52, wherein said instructing step instructs the register registration of said peripheral device by effecting the movement of said icon between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed by said system displaying step.

55. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 54, further comprising a judging step for judging whether said driver

setting information for a driver of said icon has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered in ~~its own~~

<u>said</u> information processing apparatus during the movement of said icon by said instructing

step, wherein

said install<u>ation</u> controlling step acquires said driver setting information

~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be installed from said external device to execute ~~the~~ install<u>ation</u> processing

of said driver~~;~~ when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver setting

information has not been registered.

56. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 55, wherein said install<u>ation</u> controlling step uses said registered driver

setting information to execute said install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver~~;~~ when ~~it is~~

~~determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver setting information has <u>already</u>

been ~~already~~ registered.

57. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 52, wherein said system displaying step identifies ~~the~~ <u>a</u> display mode of

an icon ~~regarding~~ <u>of</u> an installed device between said system window and said favorite

window which are separately displayed after completion of install by said install<u>ation</u>

controlling step, and displays the ~~thus~~ identified display mode.

58. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 52, further comprising a writing step for writing positional information of an icon displayed in said favorite window into a storing ~~step~~ means, wherein

said ~~first~~ system displaying step comprises arranging and displaying said icon on ~~the~~ a basis of said positional information stored in said storing ~~step~~ means.

59. (Original) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 54, wherein said instructing step can instruct, by drag and drop, the movement of said icon between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed.

60. (Currently Amended) A program which, when implemented by a computer causes the computer to perform a method for communicating with an external device through a network, said program comprising:

device information acquiring step for acquiring ~~the~~ device information of a peripheral device shared on said network from said external device;

system display controlling step for displaying, on a display section, an overall system condition of said peripheral device shared on said network, and a system condition of a user network of a peripheral device arbitrarily selected from said overall system condition, together with icons, by a user interface in such a manner that ~~these~~ the overall system conditions and the system condition of the user network can be identified, on ~~the~~ a basis of said device information acquired from said external device by said device information acquiring step;

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instructing step for instructing to register said peripheral device in said user network; and

installation controlling step for executing ~~the~~ installation processing of a driver for said peripheral device, when ~~register~~ registration of said peripheral device to said user network is newly instructed by said instructing step,

wherein said system controlling step dividedly displays a system window for displaying said overall system condition and a peripheral window for displaying said system condition of a desired peripheral device designated by a user.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 61, wherein said favorite window has ~~the~~ icons of peripheral devices arranged around an icon of ~~its own~~ said information processing apparatus.

63. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 61, wherein said instructing step instructs ~~the register~~ registration of said peripheral device by effecting ~~the~~ movement of said icon between said system window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed by said system displaying step.

64. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 63, further comprising a judging step for judging whether ~~said~~ driver setting information for a driver

of said icon has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered in ~~its own~~ <u>said</u> information processing

apparatus during the movement of said icon by said instructing step, wherein

said install<u>ation</u> controlling step acquires said driver setting information

~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be installed from said external device to execute the install<u>ation</u> processing

of said driver; when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver setting

information has not been registered.

65. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 64, wherein said

install<u>ation</u> controlling step uses said registered driver setting information to execute said

install<u>ation</u> processing of said driver; when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u>

that said driver setting information has <u>already</u> been ~~already~~ registered.

66. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 61, wherein said

system displaying step identifies ~~the~~ <u>a</u> display mode of an icon ~~regarding~~ <u>of</u> an installed

device between said system window and said favorite window which are separately

displayed after completion of install<u>ation</u> by said install<u>ation</u> controlling step, and displays

the ~~thus~~ identified display mode.

67. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 61, further

comprising <u>a</u> writing step for writing positional information of an icon displayed in said

favorite window into <u>a</u> storing ~~step~~ <u>means, wherein</u>

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said ~~first~~ system displaying step <u>comprises</u> arranging and displaying said

icon on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said positional information stored in said storing ~~step~~ <u>means</u>.

68. (Original) The program according to claim 63, wherein said instructing

step can instruct, by drag and drop, the movement of said icon between said system

window and said favorite window which are dividedly displayed.

69. to 88. (Canceled)

89. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for

communicating with an external ~~device~~ <u>computer</u> through a network, comprising:

receiving means for receiving update <u>trap</u> notification including ~~the~~ version

information of a driver for a peripheral device from ~~said~~ <u>the</u> external ~~device~~ <u>computer,</u>

<u>wherein the update trap notification is sent from the external computer without waiting for</u>

<u>a request for sending the update trap notification from said information processing</u>

<u>apparatus;</u>

recognizing means for recognizing ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a

peripheral device incorporated in said information processing apparatus; and

updating means for updating said driver for said peripheral device specified

by said specifying means on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said version information of said driver whose

update notification has been received by said receiving means and said version information

of said incorporated driver.

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90. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 89, further comprising comparing means for comparing said version information recognized by said recognizing means with said version information ~~acquired~~ received by said ~~acquiring~~ receiving means, wherein

said updating means updates a driver for a corresponding peripheral device~~,~~ when ~~it is shown by~~ said comparing means determines that said version information ~~acquired~~ received by said ~~acquiring~~ receiving means is newer than said version information recognized by said recognizing means.

91. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 89, wherein said updating means acquires, from said external device, ~~the~~ driver setting information of a driver ~~which should~~ to be updated~~,~~ and then updates said driver.

92. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 90, further comprising judging means for judging whether said driver for said peripheral device whose update notification has been ~~transmitted~~ received from said external device is incorporated in said information processing apparatus, wherein

said comparing means compares respective version information~~,~~ when ~~it is~~ ~~determined by~~ said judging means determines that said driver is incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

93. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 92, wherein said updating means does not execute said updating processing of said driver; when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging means determines that said driver is not incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

94. (Currently Amended) An information processing method of an information processing apparatus for communicating with an external device through a network, comprising:

receiving step for receiving update trap notification including ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a peripheral device from ~~said~~ the external ~~device~~ computer, wherein the update trap notification is sent from the external computer without waiting for a request for sending the update trap notification from said information processing apparatus;

recognizing step for recognizing ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a peripheral device incorporated in said information processing apparatus; and

updating step for updating said driver for said peripheral device ~~specified by said specifying step~~ on ~~the~~ a basis of said version information of said driver whose update notification has been received by said receiving step and said version information of said incorporated driver.

95. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 94, further comprising a comparing step for comparing said version information

recognized by said recognizing step with said version information ~~acquired~~ received by said ~~acquiring~~ receiving step, wherein

said updating step updates a driver for a corresponding peripheral device~~,~~ when ~~it is shown by~~ said comparing step determines that said version information ~~acquired~~ received by said ~~acquiring~~ receiving step is newer than said version information recognized by said recognizing step.

96. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 94, wherein said updating step acquires, from said external device, ~~the~~ driver setting information of a driver ~~which should~~ to be updated~~,~~ and then updates said driver.

97. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 95, further comprising a judging step for judging whether said driver for said peripheral device whose update notification has been ~~transmitted~~ received from said external device is incorporated in said information processing apparatus, wherein

said comparing step compares respective version information~~,~~ when ~~it is~~ ~~determined by~~ said judging step determines that said driver is incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

98. (Currently Amended) The information processing method according to claim 97, wherein said updating step does not execute said updating processing of said

driver, when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver is not

incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

99. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable memory medium which

stores a program <u>of an information processing apparatus</u> for communicating with an

external ~~device~~ <u>computer</u> through a network, said program comprising:

receiving step for receiving update <u>trap</u> notification including ~~the~~ version

information of a driver for a peripheral device from ~~said~~ <u>the</u> external ~~device~~ <u>computer,</u>

<u>wherein the update trap notification is sent from the external computer without waiting for</u>

<u>a request for sending the update trap notification from said information processing</u>

<u>apparatus</u>;

recognizing step for recognizing ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a

peripheral device incorporated in said information processing apparatus; and

updating step for updating said driver for said peripheral device ~~specified by~~

~~said specifying step~~ on ~~the~~ <u>a</u> basis of said version information of said driver whose update

notification has been received by said receiving step and said version information of said

incorporated driver.

100. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium

according to claim 99, further comprising <u>a</u> comparing step for comparing said version

information recognized by said recognizing step with said version information ~~acquired~~

<u>received</u> by said ~~acquiring~~ <u>receiving</u> step, wherein

said updating step updates a driver for a corresponding peripheral device, when ~~it is shown by~~ said comparing step <u>determines</u> that said version information ~~acquired~~ <u>received</u> by said ~~acquiring~~ <u>receiving</u> step is newer than said version information recognized by said recognizing step.

101. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 99, wherein said updating step acquires, from said external device, ~~the~~ driver setting information of a driver ~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be updated, and then updates said driver.

102. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 100, further comprising <u>a</u> judging step for judging whether said driver for said peripheral device whose update notification has been ~~transmitted~~ <u>received</u> from said external device is incorporated in said information processing apparatus, wherein

said comparing step compares respective version information, when ~~it is~~ ~~determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver is incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

103. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable memory medium according to claim 102, wherein said updating step does not execute said updating processing of said driver, when ~~it is determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver is not incorporated in said information processing apparatus.

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104. (Currently Amended) A program which, when implemented by a computer causes the computer to perform a method for communicating with an external ~~device~~ computer through a network, said program comprising:

receiving step for receiving update trap notification including ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a peripheral device from ~~said~~ the external ~~device~~ computer, wherein the update trap notification is sent from the external computer without waiting for a request for sending the update trap notification from said information processing apparatus;

recognizing step for recognizing ~~the~~ version information of a driver for a peripheral device incorporated in said information processing apparatus; and

updating step for updating said driver for said peripheral device ~~specified by said specifying step~~ on ~~the~~ a basis of said version information of said driver whose update notification has been received by said receiving step and said version information of said incorporated driver.

105. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 104, further comprising a comparing step for comparing said version information recognized by said recognizing step with said version information ~~acquired~~ received by said ~~acquiring~~ receiving step, wherein

said updating step updates a driver for a corresponding peripheral device, when ~~it is shown by~~ said comparing step determines that said version information ~~acquired~~

received by said ~~acquiring~~ <u>receiving</u> step is newer than said version information recognized

by said recognizing step.

106. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 104, wherein

said updating step acquires, from said external device, ~~the~~ driver setting information of a

driver ~~which should~~ <u>to</u> be updated~~,~~ and then updates said driver.

107. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 105, further

comprising <u>a</u> judging step for judging whether said driver for said peripheral device whose

update notification has been ~~transmitted~~ <u>received</u> from said external device is incorporated

in said information processing apparatus, wherein

said comparing step compares respective version information~~,~~ when ~~it is~~

~~determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver is incorporated in said

information processing apparatus.

108. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 107, wherein

said updating step does not execute said updating processing of said driver~~,~~ when ~~it is~~

~~determined by~~ said judging step <u>determines</u> that said driver is not incorporated in said

information processing apparatus.

109. (New) An information processing apparatus connected to a client

apparatus through a network, said information processing apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing at least one device driver;

recognition means for recognizing that a new device driver has been added to said memory means; and

transmission control means for controlling, in response to a recognition by said recognition means, a transmission process of transmitting an update notification indicating that the new device driver has been added to said memory means to the client apparatus prior to receiving a request for the notification from the client apparatus.

110. (New) A method for information processing apparatus connected to a client apparatus through a network, the method comprising the steps of:

storing at least one device driver in a memory;

recognizing that a new device driver has been added to said memory; and

controlling, in response to a recognition by said recognizing step, a transmission process of transmitting an update notification indicating that the new device driver has been added to said memory to the client apparatus prior to receiving a request for the notification from the client apparatus.

111. (New) A computer readable storage medium storing computer executable process steps for a method for an information processing apparatus connected to a client apparatus through a network, the process steps comprising the steps of:

storing at least one device driver in a memory;

recognizing that a new device driver has been added to said memory; and

controlling, in response to a recognition by said recognizing step, a

transmission process of transmitting an update notification indicating that the new device

driver has been added to said memory to the client apparatus prior to receiving a request for

the notification from the client apparatus.